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Friends of the Duxbury Free Library Present Mural to the Children's Room

Photos by Fran Nichols



The new mural, in the form of an opened book by Anna Conway and John Hodany, was unveiled on Sunday, March 22 in the Children's Room of the Duxbury Free Library. The 880-ton ship *Hope*, built in Duxbury by Weston and Sons, is shown in the mural.

A Brief History of the Children's Room Mural at the Duxbury Free Library

By ANNA CONWAY and JOHN HODANY

While working on concepts for the large-scale mural for the Children's Room in the new Duxbury Library, we were struck by the wonderful opportunity the Friends of the Duxbury Library had given us to create an environment with paint and canvas that would energize this public space. By basing a mural on Duxbury's landscape and seascape, we could harness the inherent power and unique beauty of this place. We hoped the inclusion of nature within the building would give the space a tranquil yet exciting mood. We believed that not only would children and adults respond to the familiar content of the painting, but would also be enthused by the process of painting.

The structure of the mural itself is in the form of an opened book. The painting needs no other frame. As it was for me to read *Make Way for Ducklings* and respond to the familiar Boston sights, so will it be for the kids to see their town as if through a window inside of this oversized book.



Artists Anna Conway and John Hodany were commissioned by the Friends of the Duxbury Free Library to create the mural for the Children's Room.

A Brief History of Anna Conway and John Hodany

They met each other at The Cooper Union School of Art in NYC, where they received Bachelor degrees in Fine Arts. For the past 6 years they have worked out of NYC and exhibited the individual artwork which includes painting, drawing, printmaking, installation and sculpture. Alongside of their personal work, they create commissioned murals and paintings on canvas, walls, ceilings, floors and furniture.